

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/777,681

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated June 2, 2004, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that claims 1-14 and 20-22 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the subject application be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

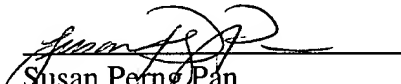
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER


Susan Perng Pan
Registration No. 41,239

Date: February 2, 2005